



JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL FOR ALLOWING AWARD OF CONTRACT WITHOUT COMPETITION

(Section A must be completed by the User Department and then submitted to the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance)

SECTION A

Department: *Fulton County Board of Health*

Department Contact: *Dr. German Gonzalez, Medical Epidemiologist*

Description of Supplies/Services: *The TSI Quantitative Respirator Fit Testers Models 8040 and Portacount Pro & 8048 Portacount Pro Plus equipment and service pack*

Demonstration of Contractor's Unique Qualifications:

The Fulton County Board of Health (FCBOH), Offices of Emergency Preparedness and Epidemiology are requesting the purchase of the TSI Quantitative Respirator Fit Testers Models 8040 and Portacount Pro & 8048 Portacount Pro Plus equipment and service pack in order to establish an employee N95 respirator fit testing/ respiratory protection program to prepare for emergent infectious diseases, as well as seasonal influenza. TSI uses unique technology to provide a quantitative rather than qualitative M95 respirator fit testing capability, the preferred standard in healthcare settings where fit testing is conducted routinely as a component of occupational health.

The PortaCount® Pro Respirator Fit Tester will be used to develop and deliver a fit testing program for FCBOH employees and those supporting the response to events that require respiratory protection. The PortACount Respiratory Fit Tester would be used to fit responding staff with personal protective equipment (specifically N-95 masks) in order for them to safely provide patient care during an outbreak of a novel infectious disease or influenza. The Fit Tester technology has the ability to quickly test individuals (approximate fitting time is 7 ½ minutes on average dependent on the mask) and is certified by OSHA to be used to fit test disposable N-95 masks using objective, quantitative criteria. Other devices rely on subjective qualitative testing and take approximately 30 minutes to use, and results may be inconclusive.

This fit testing equipment has been chosen, is superior to two other machines currently available in the market that can provide quantitative fit testing for disposable masks N95-like or N95 filtering-facepiece respirators (FFR). The PortaCount® Pro, provides the latest technology in this fit testing protocol which has been already proven and chosen by the subject matter experts in the field, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as stated in a published article by Bergman, M., Zhuang, Z., Brochu, E., & Palmiero, A. (2015).

Bergman et al. used the PortaCount® Plus fit testing equipment to test the various N95 FFRs included by U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), purchased for the CDC Strategic National Stockpile.

The two comparable models in the market from different companies, SIBATA Mask Tester Pro (MT-05C), and the OHD Quantifit Fit Tester are inferior because the OHD has no capability for testing N95 FFRs and the SIBATA Mask Tester Pro testing protocol is not sufficiently robust in comparison to the protocol used by the PortaCount® Pro.

As an example of inferior protocol the SIBATA testing instructions suggest "holding" the tube

attached to the FFR while conducting the test to ensure adequate results. Another significant issue is that this instrument should be sourced by reputable retailers, which provide additional levels of support if the equipment must be serviced. Several attempts to communicate with main distributor of SIBATA have been unsuccessful.

The PortaCount® Pro is unique and its manufacturer should be considered as sole source as all the characteristics (technical, service, and availability) made of this unit a unique piece of equipment that meets all the requirements of its intended use by the FCBOH.

Article cited:

Bergman, M., Zhuang, Z., Brochu, E., & Palmiero, A. (2015). Fit Assessment of N95 Filtering-Facepiece Respirators in the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Strategic National Stockpile. Journal of the International Society for Respiratory Protection, 32(2), 50–64.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4752193/>

(Section B must be completed by the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance)

SECTION B

MARKET SURVEY

Results of Market Survey

Include resources researched

Date Public Notice posted on website: **Monday, April 09, 2018**

Date Public Notice closed: **Monday, April 16, 2018**

REVIEW OF OFFER(S)

Were any offers received (Y/N):

Number of offers received:

Respondents:

Date Offers submitted to User Department for review:

User Department review and recommendation:

Purchasing Agent review and recommendation: *Include whether a competitive process is being recommended & estimated date of solicitation.*

CERTIFICATION

Having conducted a good faith review of source availability regarding the materials, goods and or services stipulated herein, subsequent to consultation with the County Manager and the recommendation of the User Department, it has been determined that there is only one source available for the required work, labor or service to be done or the supplies, materials, or equipment to be furnished pursuant to the Fulton County Code of Ordinances §102-384, Award without Competition.

I, Felicia Strong-Whitaker, Director, certify that the facts and representations under my cognizance which are included in this justification and its supporting documentation which form the basis for this justification are complete and accurate.

Felicia Strong-Whitaker
Director

Date

I, Dick Anderson, County Manager, certify that the facts and representations under my cognizance which are included in this justification and its supporting documentation which form the basis for this justification are complete and accurate.

Dick Anderson
County Manager

Date